



ST. LOUIS COUNTY LIBRARY
MISSOURI DEPOSITORY

FEB 09 1993

Missouri Veterans Commission

P.O. Drawer 147
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Telephone (314) 751-3779
Telecommunications Relay Service
800-735-2966

FAX: (314) 751-6836

Veterans Trust Fund

Your tax exempt donations can help the Veterans Commission expand and improve services to veterans in Missouri. Appropriations from the Veterans Trust Fund are being used to improve training of Service Officers and to expand capabilities to meet the special needs of residents of State Veterans Homes. Additional programs for veterans and/or dependents will be initiated at the discretion of the Commission as funds become available through the Trust Fund

Contributions to the Veterans Trust Fund may be made at income tax time through the appropriate "check-off" on the Missouri Tax

Form. You may contribute \$2.00 or more of your tax refund. If you are not receiving a refund, you may enclose a check or money order with your return, payable to The Veterans Trust Fund.

Contributions may be made at any time directly to:

The Veterans Trust Fund
c/o Missouri Veterans
Commission
P.O. Drawer 147
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0147

All contributions are tax deductible.

*“Serving Those
Who Have Served
Our Country”*

*“Making the
Difference for
Missouri Veterans”*

State Benefits

1. VA benefits of 100% disabled, service connected veterans and their spouses are not considered as income for the purpose of determining property tax exemption.
2. The 60% or more service connected, disabled veteran is eligible for a free fishing license.
3. Free automobile license plates are available to veterans rated 100% service connected disabled, those needing adaptive equipment, and former P.O.W.s or surviving spouse of P.O.W.
4. Veterans awarded the Purple Heart medal may purchase a specially designed Purple Heart license plate.
5. Five points preference for veterans seeking employment with the state. Ten points for the service connected disabled. Also, preference to veterans in all state administered, federally funded, employment and training programs.
6. Tuition-free scholarships for certain surviving family members of veterans who died as a possible result of exposure to "Agent Orange" or similar toxic chemicals during the Vietnam War. (Not funded.)
7. Payments made from the Agent Orange Settlement Fund to veterans or their dependents are exempt from state tax.

MISSOURI VETERANS COMMISSION
1719 SOUTHRIDGE DRIVE
PO DRAWER 147
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65102-0147
PHONE: 314-751-3779

TELECOMMUNICATIONS RELAY SERVICE
800-735-2966

Service to Veterans Program



**"Serving Those
Who Have Served
Our Country"**

THE SERVICE TO VETERANS PROGRAM

Questions

1. What is a Veterans Service Officer?

A State Veterans Service Officer is an employee of the Missouri Veterans Commission, whose job it is to assist and counsel any resident of the state who may be eligible for benefits of any kind from the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs, or from the State of Missouri, resulting from honorable military service. State Service Officers are thoroughly trained, full-time, professional benefits counselors, and possess all the latest updates about eligibility. They have all the proper forms, and will advise clients on how to fill out the forms, or do it for them.

2. Who is eligible for assistance?

All residents who have had honorable military service, their dependents, and survivors are eligible for the assistance of State Service Officers. State Service Officers routinely counsel veterans, as well as members of veterans' families regarding benefits, eligibility, and estate planning.

Additionally, State Service Officers make themselves available to groups interested in veterans benefits. They answer questions, provide instruction, or give short presentations about the benefits of having honorably served in the U.S. military.

3. How are benefits obtained?

Veterans Service Officers assist veterans, their dependents and widows in filing claims for all federal VA benefits. (contact your nearest VSO for specific benefit information. Locations and phone numbers may be found under "State Government, Veterans Service Officer" in the Yellow Pages of your phone book.) State benefits are listed below.

4. How much does it cost?

State Service Officers are paid by the state and their assistance is free to the public. They are forbidden by law to charge for their services, or even to accept gratuities.

5. How much help can I get?

There is no limit to the amount of assistance a Service Officer can provide. Many clients return often for assistance, and lasting relationships develop. Service Officers will work tirelessly until

they are sure that all benefits for which a client may be eligible have been secured.

6. Don't veterans organizations provide the same services?

Without the able help of the Service Officer Programs of veterans organizations, the Veterans Commission, with only 38 Service Officers and Assistants statewide, could not begin to meet the need. In fact, State Service Officers know and work closely with the service components of all veterans organizations in their areas. The State Service Program is committed to every possible means of securing benefits due veterans, their dependents and survivors. Only by working closely with organizations who share that goal can they meet their objectives.



10. Can a resident be discharged?

Yes. The administrator, by law, may not allow a resident to stay at the facility if adequate care cannot be provided.

A resident may be dismissed at any time at his/her or his/her guardian's request.

11. Does the home provide transportation to applicants reporting to the home?

No. Residents must provide their own transportation to the home.

12. What kinds of rules are there?

Naturally, some rules are necessary in any facility like the state veterans homes. Much effort is expended, however, to assure that all rules are necessary and basic. The administrators work closely with the resident councils to assure sufficient input from residents. Residents' rights are clearly delineated and each resident is given a copy upon admission. Some activities which are a clear threat to all residents such as smoking, possession of firearms or dangerous chemical agents must be strictly regulated for the good of all. Generally, however, residents are afforded every possible freedom their medical condition will allow. A handbook containing all rules is provided to each applicant upon admission.

13. Where can one learn more about Missouri Veterans Homes?

You are urged to visit any of the homes. A telephone call prior to your visit would assure you of seeing the appropriate people to answer your specific questions, but you may drop in any time during working hours if you wish. Administrative offices are open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Further information may be obtained by writing:

Missouri Veterans Home
620 N. Jefferson
St. James, MO 65559-1999
Phone: (314) 265-3271

Missouri Veterans Home
600 N. Main
Mt. Vernon, MO 65712-1098
Phone: (417) 466-7103

Missouri Veterans Home
920 Mars Street
Mexico, MO 65265-0473
Phone: (314) 581-1088

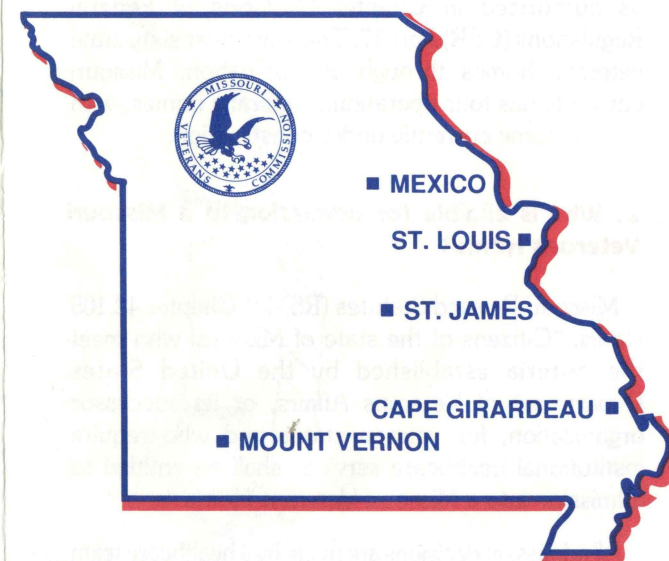
Missouri Veterans Home
R.R. 2, Box 495
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
Phone: (314) 290-5870

Missouri Veterans Home
S.E. Int. of 270 & 367
St. Louis, MO 63103
Phone: (314) 751-7910
(currently under construction)

Superintendent of Veterans Homes
Missouri Veterans Commission
1719 Southridge
P.O. Drawer 147
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0147
(314) 751-7910

TELECOMMUNICATIONS RELAY SERVICE
800-735-2966

MISSOURI VETERANS HOMES



**MAKING THE
DIFFERENCE FOR
MISSOURI VETERANS**

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is a "Missouri Veterans Home"?

Any state operated long-term healthcare facility which is approved by the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide care "primarily for veterans disabled by age, disease or otherwise, who by reason of such disability are incapable of earning a living", as authorized in Chapter 38 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 17. There are over sixty state veterans homes throughout the nation. Missouri currently has four operational veterans homes, with the 5th home currently under construction.

2. Who is eligible for admission to a Missouri Veterans Home?

Missouri Revised Statutes (RSMo) Chapter 42.105 states, "Citizens of the state of Missouri who meet the criteria established by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, or its successor organization, for veteran status and who require institutional healthcare services shall be entitled to admission into a Missouri Veterans Home."

All admission decisions are made by a healthcare team comprised of the administrator, physician, director of nursing, social worker and other professionals as needed. Care levels are continuously monitored by the healthcare team and may change from time to time.

Accurate and timely medical information on the application is very important to the administrator and the healthcare team who must decide if the home can provide the treatment needed by the applicant.

The administrator has a statutory responsibility to assure that adequate care is provided to each resident, and therefore cannot allow the admission of someone for which such care is not available.

3. What type of care is available?

Skilled nursing care — available at all facilities. Residents and applicants are categorized into one of three levels of care according to the severity of their illness or disability.

Level I — Lightest level of nursing care. Needing only minimal medical and social supervision and assistance.

Level II — Intermediate level of nursing care. Needs supervision and routine assistance in several activities of daily living.

Level III — Heavy nursing care. Needs routine and continuous supervision and/or assistance in most activities of daily living.

4. Where does one get an application?

From any Missouri Veterans Home, any Missouri Veterans Service Officer, the Missouri Veterans Commission office in Jefferson City, or the social services offices of the VA Hospitals in St. Louis, Columbia, Kansas City, Poplar Bluff, and Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Applications should be mailed to the facility of choice. Applicants may apply to more than one facility, and their name will be retained on the waiting lists of all facilities where they are approved.

5. How much does it cost?

Costs for care are revised periodically and charges are based on actual costs and the individual's ability to pay. Charges vary greatly depending upon income and assets. More detailed information may be obtained by consulting the "Residents' Payment Rate Schedule". (Available at each facility.)

6. Does the veteran turn over all his assets to the home?

No. The home can charge no more than the actual cost of care. The actual monthly charge will be assessed based upon income and assets according to the current "Payment Rate Schedule". Both state and federal governments' methods of assessing charges or awarding benefits is based upon the premise that anyone with adequate assets and/or income should contribute toward the cost of his/her healthcare. The state has established a standard formula for determining what constitutes "adequate" assets and income, and for equitably assessing charges to all. Therefore, persons with large holdings and/or incomes will be expected to pay a larger percentage of the actual cost of their care than persons with a small income and/or holdings.

7. What services are provided by the home?

Medical and nursing care; recreational, physical and rehabilitative therapy; social services and pastoral services.

8. What extra charges are there?

Specialized services not provided by a VA hospital, hospital provided services, and services or medication prescribed by a private physician.

9. What happens when a resident's health care needs exceed the home's resources?

Arrangements are made for transfer to an appropriate facility, a VA hospital, or local hospital emergency room.